



April, 1993

Volume XXIV Number 3

FREE

Cutback Schemes Spur Community Opposition

By Judy Baston

- * Only nine branch libraries left open -- and those only for children's services.
- * Muni fares and Fast Pass costs raised -- while service is cut back.

* Recreational facilities, such as city pools, shut down.

* Cutbacks in clinic care throughout San Francisco.

- * Layoff as many as 2,500 city workers -- with a resulting drop in services.

These and other preliminary proposals from the first round of this year's budget cutback talks came under fire March 30 as Mayor Frank Jordan came to Mission High School to take his views on the budget crisis to residents of Potrero Hill, the Mission District, South of Market and Bernal Heights.

Jordan insisted the City is facing a shortfall of \$184 million that, he says, will require additional sacrifices and additional inconveniences for all of us."

But many of those attending the March 30 meeting disagreed. One angry woman assailed "the false assumption that everybody needs to pull together and decide what services to cut."

And unemployed teacher Sydney Clemens, sporting a badge proclaiming, "Libraries are a Priority," stressed, "Don't spend the seed corn. . . Find sources to get money outside of the people who ride on Muni and who use our branch libraries."

(The Potrero Branch Library would be likely to close totally, with only nine branches left open under the plan submitted by the Library Administration in response to Jordan's demand for stiff cutbacks in the library system.)

In addition to the proposed library cuts, the City also came in for strong opposition for its plans to raise Muni fares — \$5 per month more for a Fast Pass, for example — and to cut back service on some lines.

"Five dollars a month may not seem like a lot, but when you're only making \$4.20 per hour, it amounts to two meals a day," emphasized Dominic Chan of the Intl. Ladies Garment Workers Union (ILGWU) in opposing the Muni fare increases.

A significant portion of what Jordan has estimated as a \$184 million shortfall is a result of the State's decision last year to cease passing on property tax revenues to cities but to use them instead to meet the state's obligation to schools. Last year, this accounted for \$53 million; this year, \$73 million.

Although Jordan did not comment on any specific methods of meeting the budget crisis, he claimed San Francisco was "beyond simple fixes and one-time solutions." If he "had to balance the budget tomorrow," the Mayor said, he would save \$92 million by cutting 2,500 jobs, \$46 million by what he called "efficiencies" (in part a new euphemism for cutbacks) and a review of outside contracts, and \$46 million by instituting new revenue generating proposals such as fees, fines and taxes.

LATE BULLETIN: New Plan Could Close Hill Library

The Potrero Branch Library would be likely to close completely under the latest proposal from City Hall, it was learned at View presstime.

Only nine brach libraries would remain open under this plan — the six large resource branches and three unspecified others — but only to provide children's services. Library officials indicate there has been no final decision about what other three branches would number among the nine, but since Potrero is one of the smaller branches, the indications are it is "very likely to close" if this proposal takes effect.

This latest round of library cuts — which had not been announced at the time of Mayor Frank Jordan's March 30 meeting in the area — are the result of a demand from the Mayor to cut another \$3.3 million from the library budget, on top of the \$1.5 million he already slashed. This total of \$5 million represents 25 percent of the total library budget and signifies a major assault by the Mayor in which he intends to play hardball in negotiating with the library system. — J.B.

Jordan is required to submit a budget to the Board of Supervisors by June 1, and the Board will then have an additional month to chew over budget questions.

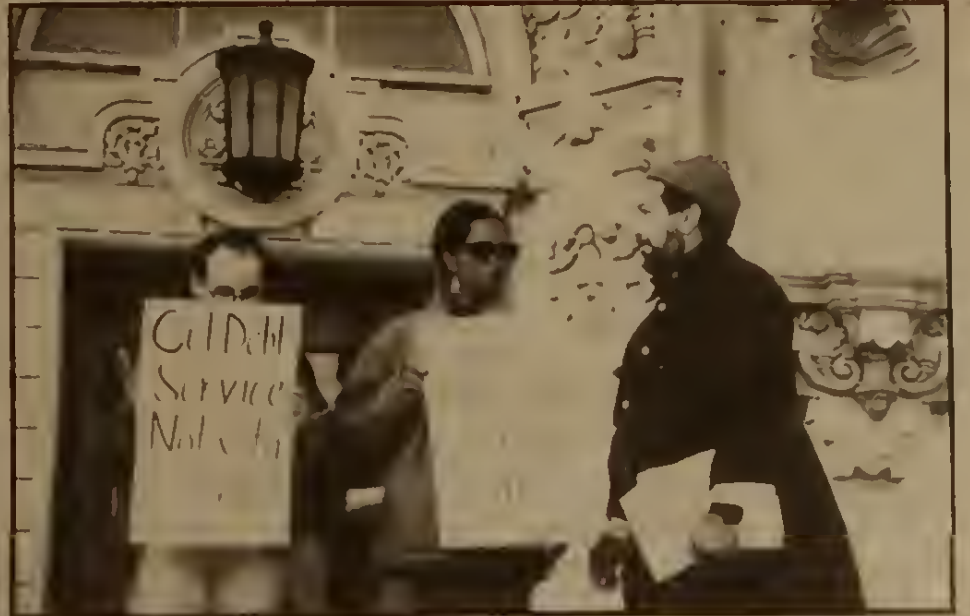
Meanwhile, other developments are being discussed on the budget front that can ultimately affect services in Potrero Hill and other neighborhoods throughout the city:

- * Creation of a "fire suppression district," possibly by August 1, enabling the collection of additional property taxes from homeowners and businesses, and generating \$35 million. (It is unclear what effect this might have on efforts to gain approval of a separate "parcel tax" to support libraries, which has been under preliminary discussion. If the fire suppression district plan passes, voters might oppose yet another property tax — however small — for libraries.)

- * Expectations that City Hall will try to seek takeaways and pay freezes from city employees, as well as continuing the unpaid "furlough" system that, for example, has resulted in closure of neighborhood libraries one additional day per month.

- * Efforts to obtain funds from San Francisco Airport that previously have not been made available to the City's General Fund.

Some budget analysts stress that Jordan's projection of a \$184 million shortfall may be an exaggeration, and point out that the winter rains will mean an increase of as much as \$15 million from the Hetch Hetchy reservoir, and business and hotel taxes may show an increase despite effects of the continuing recession in the city.



Opposition to cutting city services was strong at March 30 meeting on budget crisis.

Judy Baston photo

Muni Workshop Slated for Public Input on Transit Alternative Plans

Potrero Hill residents are invited to participate in a workshop on Monday, April 12, from 6-8 p.m. at the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House, 953 DeHaro St. The workshop is one of a series of meetings being held by Muni as part of a study of transportation improvements for the Bayshore corridor, which includes the Potrero Hill neighborhood.

It is a follow-up to a January 25 meeting where Muni's project team presented an overview of the study and the transit alternatives that are being evaluated for possible implementation in the Bayshore/Third Street corridor of San Francisco.

The neighborhood workshops will give residents and merchants an opportunity to hear what the study team has found

so far in its evaluation of the various transit alternatives. Participants will then work in small groups with team members to share their ideas about which of the transit proposals best fulfills the study's goals and objectives and meets the community's needs.

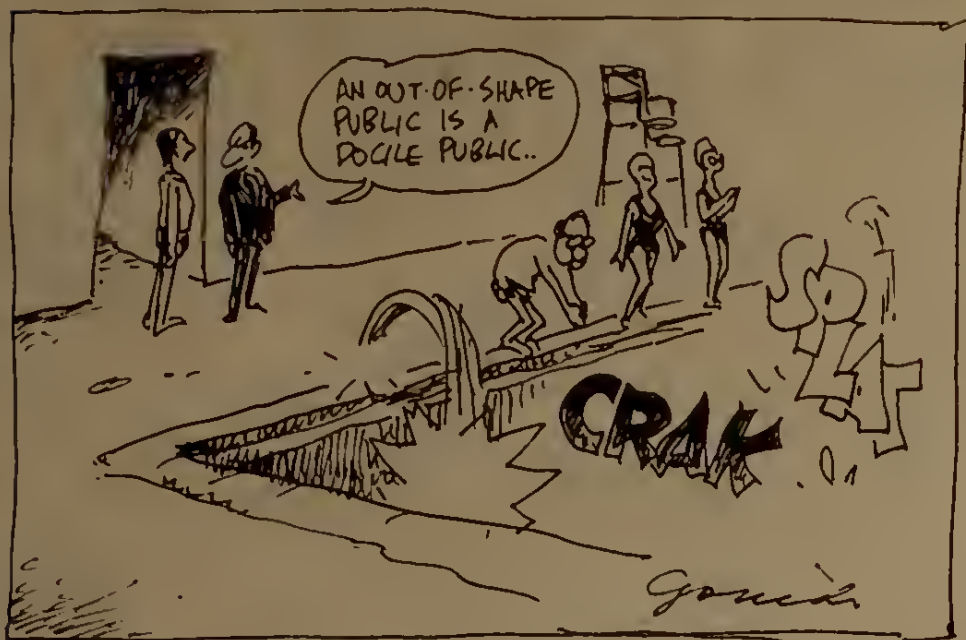
A half-cent sales tax approved by San Franciscans in 1989 for transportation improvements is providing the funding for this Bayshore study. The Bayshore corridor and the Geary Street corridor have both been identified by the city as top priorities for transit improvements. The Bayshore Transit Study will be completed near the end of the year. Additional community meetings will be held in July and September.



"Libraries are a priority," Sydney Clemens (center) tells Noah Griffin, Mayor Frank Jordan's new press secretary, at March 30 meeting.

Judy Boston photo

FINANCIALLY STRAPPED CITY THREATENS TO CLOSE ALL MUNICIPAL SWIMMING POOLS:



IN OUR VIEW

Total Recall?

Rumors of recall have been wafting over City Hall for a number of months now. And even though disgust over the City's blatant lack of governance—in the face of one soap opera after another—is spreading throughout San Francisco, it isn't this sad state of affairs that initially led to talk of a recall election against Mayor Frank Jordan.

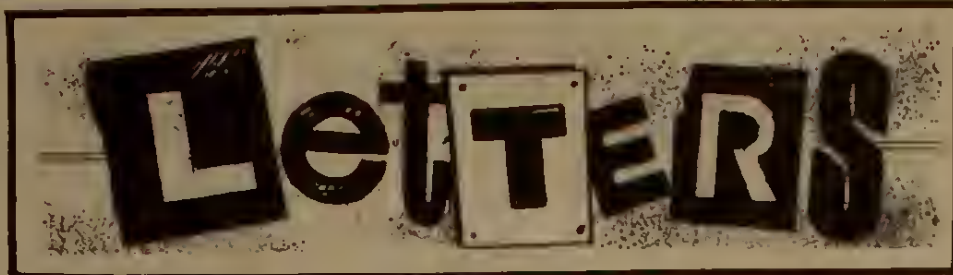
The first call for a possible recall against the Mayor came from activists from various constituency groups in San Francisco who said they were upset because the Mayor had not been paying proper attention to their "communities." Many of these people chose to support Jordan in the last election, at that time lodging similar complaints against then-Mayor Art Agnos.

Now we can hardly say, "We told you so," because although *The View* supported Agnos for Mayor in 1991, we could not have come close to predicting even part of the ludicrous goings-on now emanating from City Hall. But we must say we find it difficult to give credence to a recall movement led by representatives of various groups who are suddenly "surprised" that Jordan—a clearly conservative candidate and now a conservative mayor—is providing them even less access than Agnos, who was a liberal social worker and Assemblyman before he was elected Mayor in 1987.

We also have another serious question about a recall election: What would happen next? City regulations provide that upon a vacancy, the President of the Board of Supervisors assumes the Mayor's chair temporarily and then the Board of Supervisors votes on who would fill the rest of the Mayor's term. We know very few people who are happy about this process.

One solution to the problem of succession is contained in a measure that Supervisor Roberta Achtenberg is proposing—a popular vote if either the Mayor's or Supervisor's office is vacated. While it would be unwieldy to have a special election each time a Supervisor's office became vacant, we believe it makes a lot of sense in the case of the Mayor, and in that form, at least, such a measure deserves our strong support.

PLEASE PATRONIZE OUR ADVERTISERS



Help McKinley Square

Editor:

A number of Potrero Hill residents have expressed a concern over the condition of McKinley Square on the corner of 20th Street and Vermont and are interested in trying to upgrade the park.

For those who are not familiar with McKinley Square, it is a large, grassy "open space" with a view of Twin Peaks. The park doesn't get used as it could for various reasons, such as: many people are not aware of it, there is limited playground equipment for children and some dog owners don't take the responsibility of cleaning up after their pets.

We are forming a committee and asking for your support as a community and would like to come up with a plan for improvements that would be in everyone's interest. As you know, developing and implementing a plan takes a lot of time and effort. If you are interested in this project and would like to share your comments, ideas or time, please call 821-7279.

Together we can preserve and enjoy the beauty of the "open space" that McKinley Square offers by giving it our attention today or we can lose it tomorrow through our neglect and indifference.

Joan Ryssin-Anthony
Kansas Street

Garage Raises Concerns

Editor:

The following letter was sent to John L. Molinari, President of the Parking and Traffic Commission:

Thank you for responding to our comments regarding the San Francisco General Hospital Proposed Parking Garage. We are becoming increasingly concerned about the negative impacts of this proposal on our neighborhood.

Succinctly stated, we want a garage that works for the neighbors as well as for the Hospital users and workers. Our two primary concerns are security for the garage and the cost to city residents of subsidizing this structure. We want the height lowered and the number of spaces reduced.

We do not oppose a parking structure on this site. However, alterations must be made to this proposal in order to gain our support. We want to work with you and all other interested parties to ensure a final project that meets the needs of the residents as well as other affected parties.

Rae Ann Emery
Michele Schaal
Vermont Street

GETTING INVOLVED

THE POTRERO HILL BOOSTERS AND MERCHANTS ASSOCIATION meeting takes place the last Tuesday of the month, April 27, upstairs at the Potrero Library, 1616 - 20th St. The meeting starts at 7:30 p.m. Be there at 7 p.m. for a half-hour of socializing.

THE POTRERO HILL DEMOCRATIC CLUB will hold its regular meeting on the second Tuesday of the month, April 13. The meeting takes place at 7 p.m. at the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House, 953 De Haro St. Larry Bush, who served as press secretary and speech writer to former Mayor Art Agnos, will talk on City Politics in San Francisco. Call 695-1536 for further information.

RESIDENTS OF THE SOUTHEAST SECTOR (ROSES) facilitates interaction between the police and community. It holds regular meetings on the first Thursday of the month at the Esprit Corporate Building, 900 Minnesota at 7 p.m..

YOUTH CORPS—Alternative court trials for youth with high school students serving as attorneys and jurors in trials of their peers. Come see a real court hearing performed by youth. Public welcome. Wednesday, April 21, at 4 p.m. Potrero Hill Library, 1616 - 20th St.

POTRERO HILL GARDEN CLUB holds its next regular meeting Monday, April 19, at 7 p.m. in the Veranda Room at Victoria News, entrance on Carolina off 19th Street. For more information, call Mia at 285-6807.

THE ADVISORY COUNCIL for the Potrero Hill Health Center will meet Monday, April 19 at 6 p.m., 1050 Wisconsin St. This is an important meeting to discuss the future of this clinic and its services to the community.



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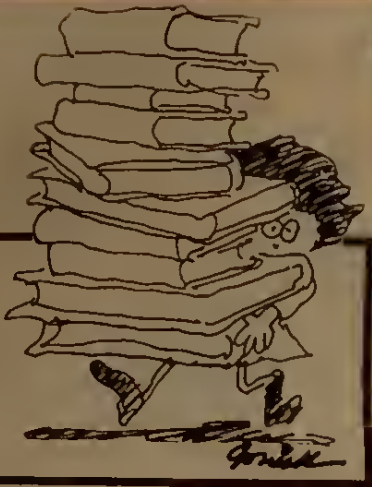
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LIBRARY NEWS
POTRERO BRANCH
1616 20th St. 285-3022

Closed Monday
Tuesday 1 - 6 pm
Wednesday 1 - 8 pm
Thurs., Fri., & Sat. 1 - 6 pm



CYMBIDIUM, CLAUDE PEPPER

The exquisite orchid currently gracing the Library is courtesy of the Potrero Hill Garden Club, which will also be showing two videos, "Creating the Romantic Garden" and "Chelsea Flower Show" in the upstairs meeting room on Saturday, April 17, at 1 p.m.

ONGOING CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

Preschool Story Time, a half hour of reading aloud and singing along, continues Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m. Thursday afternoon lapsits, featuring books and songs for infants and toddlers, continue on Thursdays at 1:30 p.m.

CHILDREN'S FILM PROGRAM

The April 21 program (in lieu of Story Time) will feature "Mole and the Rocket" and "A Bear Called Paddington."

COMING ATTRACTIONS: ADULT BOOKS ON ORDER

- Chelekis, George. "The Action Guide to Government Grants, Loans and Give-aways." Up-to-date lists of state and federal resources for just about every type of funding imaginable. More work than the lottery, but the odds are better.
- Crampton, Norman. "The 100 Best Small Towns in America." Useful for would-be urban escapees. Dream fodder for armchair movers.
- Ebersole, Lucinda and Richard Peabody. "Mondo Barbie." Barbie's in her thirties and her peers — including the likes of Alice McDermott and Sandra Cisneros — reflect on the pervasive impact of this statuesque shin-high teenybopper icon.
- Ellis, Barbara - ed. "The Organic Gardener's Handbook of Natural Insect and Disease Control."
- Evans, Geraldine. "Dead Before Morning." When a London prostitute is found dead on the grounds of an elite psychiatric institute, detectives bemoan a spate of suspects with passkeys and flimsy alibis.
- Goldberg, Natalie. "Long, Quiet Highway." The author of "Writing Down the Bones" and "Wild Mind" tells of the events, insights and encounters that led her to understand writing well as a spiritual practice.
- Hampton, Steven. "Security Systems Simplified: Protecting Your Home, Business and Car with State of the Art Burglar Alarms."
- Hicks, Tyler G. "199 Great Home Businesses You Can Start (and Succeed In) For Under \$1,000."
- Ilubner, John. "The Bottom Feeders." A well-written, well-organized account of the Mitchell Brothers' rise and fratricide.
- Kanarek, Lisa. "Organizing Your Home Office for Success: Expert Strategies That Can Work for You."

- Kinkopf, Eric. "Shooter." A two time Pulitzer nominee's gritty fiction debut involves Detroit's Police Chief, a prosecuting attorney and even a judge in a secret snuff campaign against drug dealers that further evolves into an elaborate frame-up attempt.
- Klavan, Andrew. "Animal Hour." It's Halloween in New York and Klavan masterfully intertwines the stories of a suddenly demented secretary and a corpse-ridden poet in what Publishers Weekly terms "a cross between Rod Serling and James Ellroy."
- LaQuey, Tracy. "The Internet Companion: A Beginner's Guide to Global Networking." Al Bore introduces this often humorous procedural and netiquette resource (William Gibson's 1984 cyberpunk novel, "Neuromancer" seems more prophetic all the time).
- Levine, Michael. "Guerrilla PR: How to Wage an Effective Publicity Campaign . . . Without Going Broke."
- Levy, Faye. "Faye Levy's International Jewish Cookbook."
- Miller, Sue. "For Love." The author of "The Good Mother" and "Family Pictures" insightfully explores just a few of the ways love goes wrong when an obsessive brother and troubled sister return to their family home to prepare it for sale.
- O'Brien, Tim. "Where the Animals Are: A Guide to the Best Zoos, Aquariums and Wildlife Attractions in North America." . . . apparently there is a picture painting elephant at the Anchorage zoo.
- Self, Charles. "Bricklaying: A Homeowners Illustrated Guide."
- Standard and Poor's Stock and Bond Guide, 1993." Tracks performance of more than 12,000 stocks, bonds, mutual funds and annuities.

COMING ATTRACTIONS: CHILDREN'S BOOKS ON ORDER

- Cole, Babette. "The Trouble With Uncle." . . . is that he's a pirate considered undesirable by the local yacht club who nonetheless rescues a kidnapped princess only to drop his reward in the ocean where a mermaid finds it and . . . (Preschool).
 - Facklam, Margery. "Bees Dance and Whales Sing." Surveys the variety of ways animals communicate from pheromones to echolocation (Grades 3-5).
 - Patent, Dorothy Hinshaw. "Places of Refuge: Our National Wildlife Refuge System." Examines habitats of individual protected species as well as providing an overview of the 'Refuge System.' (Grades 4-7).
 - Pilkey, Dav. "When Cats Dream." They rifle art history with post-modernist Gusto, unabashedly combining a variety of styles with cameos by famous subjects from the Mona Lisa to Whistler's mother (Preschool).
- Thomas Tavis
Acting Branch Librarian

MUNI - BART Tix at NABE

MUNI and BART tickets are available at the Neighborhood House, 953 De Haro St., Mondays through Fridays, during office hours of 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Senior Muni	\$5.00
Youth Muni	\$5.00
Senior BART	\$1.60

For more information
- call 826-8080

TEN YEARS AGO

In The View.

CONCERNS PERSIST ON MISSION BAY:

Strong concerns about density, housing and obstruction of views were expressed by Potrero Hill residents at the fifth public meeting on the issue held at the Potrero Hill Middle School by the sponsor of the Mission Bay development. While many of the 150 people present agreed that the new plan had been somewhat of an improvement over previous schemes, many of the original objections remained. Joe Passen, representing the Potrero League of Active Neighbors (PLAN), called for project sponsor Southern Pacific to provide land for affordable housing. Architect Tom Jones of San Francisco Tomorrow (SFT) likened the project to "plunking down nine Bank of America buildings in the middle of the Marina District."

SUPPORT GROWS FOR "JOBS WITH PEACE WEEK":

Mayor Dianne Feinstein added her name to a growing list of supporters for a "Jobs With Peace Week" April 10-16. The Mayor joined a host of union and community organizations, including the S.F. Labor Council, the Building Trades Council, the Archdiocese of S.F., the Nuclear Freeze movement, as well as Supervisors Nancy Walker and Harry Britt in endorsing the week. Jobs With Peace is a nationwide campaign seeking to put communities on record for local jobs and programs "by reducing the amount of our tax dollars spent on nuclear weapons and programs of foreign military intervention."

WHY THE HILL WON'T SLIP AND SLIDE:

Meteorologist and then-Hill resident Mike Pechner dealt with fears over the stability of Potrero Hill in the aftermath of what turned out to be the third wettest winter in San Francisco since the City began keeping records in 1849. Pechner stated that "because most of the Hill is rock and not soft soil or filled land the rain simply drains off and doesn't penetrate the ground...to the point where it might move." In addition, he pointed out, because the rock is so close to the surface, most homes are anchored in bed rock and would not collapse in an earthquake.

APRIL 1906—THE DAY THE CITY SHOOK:

The View featured a three-page spread on the 1906 earthquake with interviews of Potrero Hill survivors of the calamity. Ellie Baine, Bill Wilson and George Fawcett recounted the terror, hardship and heroism of the time.

THIS AND THAT:

The View reported the death of Rebecca Purnell, longtime Potrero Hill volunteer worker who, a month previously had a day proclaimed in her honor by Mayor Feinstein. Purnell, though disabled, worked with the Potrero Hill Tenants' Organization, helped initiate the Head Start program and the Caleb Clark Health Center, and served on the city Mental Health Advisory Board...The Potrero League of Active Neighbors (PLAN) sponsored a Hill walking tour...The library was preparing for the 28th annual Artists' Show...Hill pianist and teacher Harold Bradford, who preferred "neo-classical" rather than "jazz" in describing his music, was profiled...The Hill's Anchor Brewing Co. announced a series of four free chamber music concerts...127 Muni drivers out of the Potrero Division were honored with Safe Driver Awards in March 1983, and Division Superintendent Walter Ware announced a 40 percent reduction in accidents in the previous two months...The View announced the enactment by the Board of Supervisors of a "View Tax," which would impose a levy based on a "complex formula which takes into account the number of windows with views, direction and scope of the views and what particular landmarks" they include. The story went on to say that the tax would take effect on April 1 "which we all know but are too quick to forget, is also the day for APRIL FOOLS."

- Vas Arnautoff

Potrero Hill Neighborhood House

953 De Haro Street • San Francisco, California • (415) 826-8080

Enola D. Maxwell, Executive Director

Girls Club Meetings	-	Mon., 5
Omega Boys Club Meetings	-	1st & 3rd Thurs., 7:30 p.m. Every Tues., 7:30 p.m.
Study Hall	-	Tues., 5-7 p.m.
Juvenile Diversion	-	
Tutorial Program	-	
Job Referral	-	
Al-Anon	-	Thurs., 6:30-7:30 p.m.
Alcohol Anonymous	-	Sun/Mon/Thurs, 8:30 p.m.

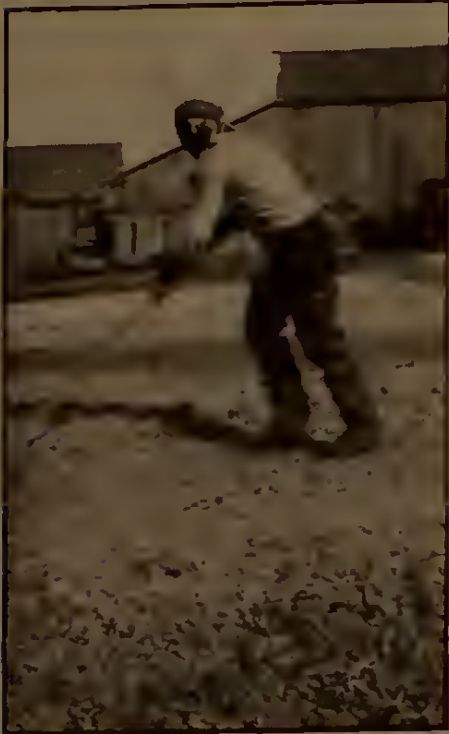
Social Development Center: For developmentally disabled adults. Basic education, cultural enrichment, consumer and health education, field trips, sensorimotor development, work training, leisure time use, group and individual counseling.
Senior Citizens Program: Hot lunches every weekday (at small cost). Activities include - bingo games, information and referral, counseling, social hour, games and recreation.
Classes: Photography, Arts & Crafts.
Potrero Hill Neighborhood Theatre

Facilities:

Meeting spaces available for use by community groups
Auditorium for theatre presentations, lectures, workshops and receptions
Gymnasium and recreational space
Photographic workshop
Bulletin board with job and events listings
Mini-park
Child Development Center (for pre-school children)

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ACRES OF
SHRIMP

These photos — taken by the Bertich family of Missouri Street, show fields of shrimp in a Japanese community at Hunters Point in 1910.

Dave Bertich (at far right in photo) worked for the Pacific Rolling Mills at Mississippi and 18th Streets. His daughter, Mrs. Virginia Carlton, remembers. "You could buy a big bag of dried shrimp out there for five cents. There were shrimp as far as the eye could see. I roller skated out there along 3rd St. in 1926; the Japanese shrimp drying business was still going." Photos from the Potrero Hill Archives Project, Carlton Collection.

- Peter Linenthal



Tutors, Sports, Sewing Equipment
Top Neighborhood House Wish List

The wood-frame building at the corner of DeHaro and Southern Heights bustles daily with sounds of children at play, while a quiet atmosphere surrounds a serious bingo game for senior citizens; at night table tennis players, volleyball and basketball players work out in the gym.

Hundreds of people use the Neighborhood House every week—day and night—so the wear and tear on equipment is heavy and needs constant replacement. So the "Nabe" is asking for a response to their "wish list." Badly needed are basketballs, volleyballs, and nets, and soccer balls, along with gymnastic floor mats.

The sewing skills workshop needs fabric, needles, thread, and, a sewing machine, and the kitchen needs a stove. You can also donate time to tutor youngsters who need help with reading, spelling and math. A special time for tutors is on Wednesdays from 5-6 p.m., but if another day is better, don't let that stop you. Children come to the Nabe after school, and

activities for them take place between 3-5 p.m. Please call 826-8080 if you can help out with either equipment or tutoring.

Christmas in April has selected the Neighborhood House as one of its major projects for 1993 and will work on renovations to the House free of charge. The organization relies on both their own help as well as skilled and non-skilled volunteers from the neighborhood to

pitch in to repair and paint the exterior of the House.

Preparation dates and final date of the work are: April 10, 11 and 18, with the most intensive work day on April 24. If you want to help, please call Mitzi Trachtenberg at 695-1536.



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“Aim High” Program Offers Help for Middle Schoolers

A unique educational program to help disadvantaged middle school students prepare for entry into high school will be established this summer at the Potrero Hill Middle School.

Called Aim High, and organized by faculty at Lick-Wilmerding High School, the program is an academic and cultural enrichment program for motivated middle school students from low-income families. Students who attend can expect a rigorous series of classes lasting five and a half weeks in the summer and 10 Saturday mornings during the academic year. Each student will take classes in the Humanities, Science, Math and Computer Science taught by a faculty of experienced teachers as well as college and high school students who are interested in pursuing careers in teaching.

Aim High began at Lick-Wilmerding High School in 1986, and a second campus was established at the Urban School in 1990. The program has already held classes at the Horace Mann Middle School and the Potrero Hill Middle School campuses. This summer there will be four campuses for this program: Lick-Wilmerding, Urban School, James Lick, and the

Hill's Middle School.

The program runs from June 28 - July 31, from 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. Aim High makes a three year commitment to the student, and gives students the extra attention they need to succeed in high school and in college. The intensive summer session continues during the academic year with meetings twice a month for tutoring and special activities. Once in the program, students are eligible to participate in the program for three summers.

Applications, consisting of student statement and parent statement, are due on or before April 20. For more information contact either Alec Lee, Director, Aim High, Lick-Wilmerding High School, 755 Ocean Ave., S.F. 94112, tel: 333-4021; or Carolyn McNulty, Director, Aim High, Potrero Hill Middle School, 655 DeHaro St., S.F. 94107, tel: 454-0200 or 695-5905 (summer).

This unique collaboration between public and private schools is funded by private grants and donations, by the San Francisco Unified School District, and by the private schools. There will be approximately 270 students and 75 teachers in the program.



Guest performers at the Koshland anniversary party included the Potrero Hill Girls Club (above) who brought a cheering audience to its feet with their energetic hip-hop. Ruth Passen photo

Front & Center On Local Stage

Postponed last month because of our incomplete floor renovation, Multi Ethnic Theatre at the Neighborhood House, 953 DeHaro St., will present "Domino Courts" by William Hauptman on the Fridays and Saturdays of April 23, 24, 30 and May 1. The one-act play will be preceded by one or two scenes showcasing new members of the acting company. Call 822-7898.

Still celebrating its 15th anniversary season, Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 - 16th Street, continues the successful revival of its 1985 hit, "Livin' On Salvation Street", by Terry Garner, now through May 1—Wednesdays through Sundays at 8, plus matinees on Sat. (5 p.m.) and Sunday (3 p.m.) Call 861-5079.



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American Heart Association

The space provided as a public service 1993, American Heart Association

Koshland Awardees Feted On Their Tenth Anniversary

Ten years ago the San Francisco Foundation honored a founder of their organization by establishing the Daniel Koshland Civic Unity Award for persons and organizations in city communities. Winners received \$1,000 for their personal use and \$5,000 to be used for the organization of their choice.

On Potrero Hill seven community workers were awardees in 1984: Enola D. Maxwell (Potrero Hill Neighborhood House), Ruth Passen (The Potrero View), Jack Jacqua (Potrero Hill Middle School), Jon Greenberg (Rec Center on Arkansas),

John Murphy (Caleb Clark Clinic), Gus Portocarrero (Potrero Hill Middle School), and Barbara Gregory (Starr King School).

These and other winners were feted at a 10th anniversary party held in their honor at Ft. Mason March 23. The setting represented the various communities where Koshland Award winners live and work, both in San Francisco and Oakland.

Awardees were introduced, along with members of the San Francisco Foundation Board of Directors and Koshland staff.



Judy Baston photo

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Master Acrobat From China Trains Circus Students on Hill

By Winifred Mann

For more than two years now, we have had in our midst on Potrero Hill a priceless treasure from China in the person of Mr. Lu Yi, master acrobat and trainer of acrobats, former artistic director of the Nanjing Acrobatics Troupe.

Lu Yi came to the U.S. about three years ago, and following a detour via New York where he served a season as acrobatics teacher for the Big Apple Circus Company, settled in the Bay Area to work with Potrero Hill's Pickle Family Circus. He quickly won the respectful awe and affection of veteran and beginning performers alike.

Recently, however, the Pickles have been stricken with the mounting financial crises that have afflicted nearly every non-profit arts organization across our country.

In the face of the Pickles' growing deficits and drying up of funding, and the very real threat of imminent bankruptcy, a group of Pickles' friends—volunteers, teachers, adult students and parents of young student children—have undertaken a heroic volunteer effort to ensure that the work begun by Lu continues the development and training of the next generation of "master" acrobats.

Headed by a five person board of directors—two teachers, two parents and one adult student, the group has already incorporated as a separate entity, the San Francisco School of Circus Arts, and applied for non-profit status.

Hannah Kahn, tireless volunteer and spokesperson for the board—as well as skilled performer and teacher in her own right—describes the current activities of volunteers, including board



Lu Yi, master acrobat and teacher, patiently offers "hands on" support to a young aspiring acrobat while his fellow students nervously await their turn. Classes are now offered year round at the San Francisco School of Circus Arts.

members: "...office work, payroll, building maintenance, etc. for the moment." She continues, "We are on a shoestring budget of tuition fees only. We are working hard to be able to offer more classes. Once we secure our non-profit status, we plan to raise funds to hire a permanent director and administrative staff."

The school is currently housed in the attractively refurbished Olivet church at 400 Missouri, and the hope is that this address will be permanent.

While the current student body comes from all parts of the Bay Area, about 60 percent are from Potrero Hill, and the School hopes to increase that proportion. The School values the rich diversity of cultures on the Hill and plans to raise money for scholarships as soon as possible, to ensure that no

talented child is excluded for lack of funds.

The School, now in spring semester, functions year round with classes for ages pre-school to adult.

A summer program is scheduled to begin in early June for pre-schoolers as well as those aged 6-12 and for the first time, music classes will be included; for all age groups including adults. These will be conducted by noted musician Jeffrey Gaeto.

For information regarding the times and frequency of specific age groups or about the adult evening classes, call the school at 648-3006.

Meanwhile, Lu Yi will be starting the second session of the spring semester on April 12. For registration information, call the School at 648-3006.



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The Potrero Hill Garden Club presents a free video screening, "Creating the Romantic Garden," at the Potrero Hill Library, 1616-20th St., April 17, from 1-4 p.m. Refreshments and discussion will follow.

Asthma strikes millions of children annually. Breathing Easier is a support group for parents of children with asthma that meets every other week at California Pacific Medical Center, from 7-8:30 p.m. Qualified healthcare professionals lead discussions. Free childcare and parking are available. Breathing Easier is sponsored by the American Lung Assn. of San Francisco. To receive additional info about the support group call Albert Smith at 543-4410.

A "Stop the Violence Against Women" meeting takes place April 27 at Valencia Hall, 523-A Valencia St. Guest speaker Wenny Kusuma from WOMAN, Inc. will discuss strategies to tackle the increase in rape, battering, and sexual harassment. Dinner for \$5 is served at 6:45 and the meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. Call 864-1278 for more info. The meeting is sponsored by Radical Women—Bay Area Branch.

Modern Times Bookstore, 888 Valencia St., sponsors book readings: April 22 Michael Snedeker reads from his new novel "Down in the Valley," a novelized look at the Prisoners Union movement of the mid-70s, and will be joined by poets Luis Talamantez, formerly one of the San Quentin 6, and journalist John Ross. And '50s activist David Dellinger talks about his new book "David Dellinger: From Yale to Jail," April 29. Both events are free and begin at 7:30 p.m.

Political scientist Richard DeLeon will discuss his new book "Left Coast City" on April 13 as part of the Greentalk series sponsored by the S.F. Greens and Green Party, at New College, 777 Valencia St. in San Francisco, at 7:30 p.m. There is a sliding scale donation of \$5 to \$10. For more info call 255-2940. The book, notes Greentalk, "shows how San Francisco's progressivism is a composite of three distinct Left subcultures and ideological tendencies: liberalism, environmentalism and populism." The Greentalk will attempt to answer the question "What's Left?" since the end of the Cold War and what will be the role of the Green Party and San Francisco in reactivating the left in this country?

Bargain shoppers: Be sure to check out items at the Neighborhood House's semi-annual FLEA MARKET on Saturday, April 17, 953 De Haro St. Always lots of fun meeting with neighbors while keeping an eye out for that special purchase you absolutely must have in your house!!!



The eight days of Passover, the most widely observed of all Jewish festivals, begin at sunset April 5. Finding proper kosher-for-Passover foods is sometimes difficult for new residents in the Bay Area. Help is just a phone call away at Jewish Community Information and Referral at 777-4545. Volunteers at the agency compile information such as: Pre-Passover workshops for interfaith couples, family-oriented seders, haggadahs (the stories and prayers of Passover), prayer books for feminists, or Israeli matzoh. In addition to Passover information, the agency can provide info and referrals for questions related to Jewish life in the Bay Area.

S.F. Supervisor Roberta Achtenberg has been named Woman of the Year for the 3rd State Senate District represented by Senator Milton Marks. Achtenberg is the first lesbian elected official to be honored in the program. The Woman of the Year awards are sponsored by the Women's Caucus of the California State Legislature.

Volunteers are needed by the Metabolic Research Unit at UCSF for a study of a new oral medication for type II, adult-onset diabetes. Adult volunteers are sought who are in good health with no major medical problems, and who are participating in a stable diabetes treatment regimen. Women of child bearing age are not eligible to participate at this time. Nineteen visits to the study center will be required, including one overnight stay. Ask for the research nurse at 476-7265.

An exhibition of Bay Area light artists of sculpture, photography, installations, and video opens at Limn Gallery, 290 Townsend St. at 4th, and at the Opt Art Gallery, 250-4th St. The shows open April 16 and run through May 21, with receptions at both galleries April 16, at 6 p.m. The Opt Art Gallery presents an evening of performance art April 23, 24 and 25 at 7 p.m.

City Cab, De Soto Cab, Luxor Cab and Yellow Cab Cooperative are participating in a Reward Fund Program to deter assaults against taxi drivers. The Fund will pay up to a maximum of \$5,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of any person or persons responsible for assaulting and injuring a taxicab driver. Participating taxicab companies in California will display decals on their cabs informing the public about the Reward Fund Program.

The city's Rec and Park Dept. in conjunction with the ARCO/Jesse Owens Games, is holding signups at neighborhood playgrounds for a Youth Track and Field Meet on April 24 at Kezar Stadium. Age groups are determined by the year of birth. For more info visit your local playground or recreation center, or call 753-7028 or 753-7029. The Rec and Park Dept. also sponsors a Tap Dancing Class for Adults, 1:30-2:30 p.m., Thursdays, at Junipero Serra Playground, 300 Stonecrest Dr. This is a free program. Call 337-4713 for info.

The Cartoon Art Museum currently has three exhibitions on display through April 18: "Invisible Lives: The City of Will Eisner," "Humorous Illustrations from the Collection of Ben and Jane Eisenstat" examines humorous illustrations from the late 1800s to the present; and "Scrambled Genius: Paul Mavrides and T.O. Sylvester." Mavrides is perhaps best known for his work on the "Fabulous Furry Freak Brothers." The Museum is located at 665 Third St., 5th Fl. For info call 546-3922.



The San Francisco Interreligious Coalition on AIDS addresses the emotional and spiritual needs of people with AIDS by providing a directory listing "HIV Sensitive Clergy." The directory, with over a dozen denominations represented, "is offered free of charge to hospitals, HIV agencies and others involved in referring people to clergy and religious caregivers." To receive a copy, or for more info, call David Fisher at Catholic Charities, 558-7060.

Human Rights advocates will moderate a forum on post-Cold War threats to peace and security and what the Clinton Administration can do to meet challenges of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation. It takes place Monday, May 3, at the Monadnock Building conference room, 685 Market St., from 5 to 7 p.m.

MECA, the Mission Economic and Cultural Assn., seeks volunteers for "Carnaval San Francisco 1993," to be held May 28-30. Community volunteers are needed in the box office, backstage to host VIPs, to monitor the parade, and to assist with the Salsa or Samba Ball, the outdoor festival and the Grand Parade, or to lend their expertise to the creation of a new environmental exhibit. For information, call Carnaval Hotline, 824-8999.

The UCSF School of Nursing is seeking male and female Alzheimer's patients and their caregivers for a six-week study on sleep disruption. Participants will receive \$100 reimbursement. Alzheimer's subjects must be female, age 65 or over, live in the community, and be cared for primarily by one person (e.g. spouse, child, paid attendant). A researcher will meet with participants in their homes four times during the six-week period. For more info call Glenna Dowling, PhD, or Carolyn Wiener, PhD, 476-4651.

Keith Menhold, the openly gay U.S. Navy officer who was discharged after declaring his homosexuality and then reinstated in a controversial series of legal battles, will discuss his experiences as part of a forum sponsored by the ACLU S.F. Chapter and the Golden Gate University School of Law, April 13. His lecture is the first in a two-part series, with the second, "The Death Penalty: Right or Wrong?" scheduled for the evening of May 5. Both programs begin at 7:30 p.m. in the second floor auditorium at 536 Mission St. The forums are open to the public, and tickets are available. Call 979-6699 for info.

The Peace Corps is looking for volunteers to fill some 4,000 positions overseas and is hosting an information presentation and film show to attract and inform those interested. The forum and show will be Wednesday, April 28 from 7 to 9 p.m. in room 370, Building C, Fort Mason Center.

The NAMES Project called on those planning to attend the historic 1993 March on Washington for Lesbian, Gay and Bi Equal Rights and Liberation to create new panels for a unique display of the AIDS Memorial Quilt which will take place on April 24 and 25 in Washington, D.C. during the march. By displaying a Quilt made up of entirely new panels to memorialize the lives of lovers, friends and family members who have died of AIDS, the NAMES Project hopes to dramatically demonstrate the continuing toll which AIDS is taking in the United States. The Project expects more than 2,000 new panels to be received and displayed that weekend. To date, the entire Quilt, which is maintained at the NAMES Project's San Francisco headquarters, includes more than 23,000 panels. About 170,000 Americans have died from AIDS-related causes since the disease was first identified. For general info about the new panels and the display call 403-3627.

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Filmmaker Recounts Return To Vietnamese Homeland

After living in the United States for more than 25 years, filmmaker/actress Tiana Thi Thanah Nga returned to Vietnam to begin a dramatic search for roots and identity. Her courageous journey back to the homeland and its impact on Nga and her family is the subject of the young woman's first film, "From Hollywood to Hanoi", which begins a week long run at the Roxie Cinema (3117-16th Street), Friday, April 2.

In 1988, Nga, a gutsy woman with a black belt in karate who left home at 16 to become a Hollywood actress, made her first return journey to Vietnam with a delegation of Vietnam War veterans and French journalists. Ignoring the protestations of her father, a former Director of Press and Information for the South Vietnamese government, Nga departed to Paris—visas to travel to Vietnam from the U.S. are not available — where she began a fascinating journey of self-discovery and rediscovery of her Vietnamese roots, culture and identity.

During her stay in Saigon, Nga has an emotional visit with an aunt she last saw in 1966, is poignantly reunited with an uncle recently released from a reeducation camp and long thought dead by Nga's family, and interviews several Americans—the offspring of American GIs and Vietnamese women—who are ostracized by their countrymen and yearn to come to America to find their biological fathers.

While traveling, by train, to the North, Nga crosses the DMZ (Demilitarized Zone) bridge and enters a Vietnam that is as foreign to her as it is to the viewer. Although she feels like an "outsider" in

Hanoi, the filmmaker continues her journey as she is given unprecedented access to Pham Van Dong (Ho Chi Minh's closest associate), who speaks to Nga in French, and to General Vo Nguyen Giap, the former Commander of the North Vietnamese forces.

In Hanoi, Nga also interviews a wide range of Vietnamese who speak of "Uncle" Ho Chi Minh with great respect and devotion, which, as Nga says, is in stark contrast to her childhood fears and memories of the Communist leader. In a particularly poignant scene, two women who survived the My Lai massacre speak about the incident and its impact on their lives.

Throughout the film, Nga keeps the viewer engaged and entertained by juxtaposing film clips of her "karateize" exercise video and quickie martial arts action-adventure films, and archival war footage with candid and emotionally powerful interviews of Vietnamese and other individuals involved in the war.

At the center of Nga's film lies the intensely personal story of a young Vietnamese emigre woman trying to come to terms with her identity. However, during the course of the documentary, the big picture—the one that looms beyond the recycled images of the Vietnam war and family reunions—is an emotionally and intellectually satisfying cinematic experience. It captures the realities of postwar Vietnam and reveals through stories of Vietnamese from all strata of society a range of emotions that touches all.



Madeleine Ali's "Black to the Promised Land" is a lively account of disadvantaged African American teenagers who experience life on an Israeli Kibbutz. Ali's documentary, voted "audience favorite" at the 1992 International Film Festival, begins a short run at the Roxie Cinema in April.

Film Documents Kibbutz Experience of Black Teens

By Julia Jaurigui

What happens when 11 curious and sassy black teenagers from Brooklyn's Bedford-Stuyvesant neighborhood spend 10 weeks living and working on a kibbutz in Israel? A great deal and more. In Madeleine Ali's inspirational documentary "Black to the Promised Land", which plays Friday, April 23 through Wednesday, May 5 at the Roxie Cinema (3117-16th Street), these remarkably lively and resilient teens learn — in mere weeks — what many Americans may never learn during the course of a lifetime.

During their stay on the kibbutz, the numerous stereotypical expectations of both the Americans and the kibbutz members are soon dispelled as the spirited Brooklynites make friends with Israeli kids and work side-by-side with other kibbutzniks. For example, one American teen is surprised to see that Israel is not a desert with buildings and huts made of mud and clay. Another youngster, in a great scene, displays the "stash" of candy and soda he brought with him because he assumed these items would be unavailable on the kibbutz.

His counterpart, an Israeli teen, worries about whether or not the American kids will deal drugs because he thinks they come from a high school for "criminals." And, of course, the Israelis believe all blacks play basketball.

Ali's film is provocative and remarkably entertaining as it examines how both the Americans and Israelis are profoundly changed by the experience of learning about one another's culture and the day-to-day reality of living and working together as equals.

Prior to the journey, one young African American woman talks about how she wants Israelis to know that she's the "same as anybody else." At the end of their 10 week stay, the American teens express, in their candid and "no punches-pulled" style, how sad it is to leave a place where they could leave their door unlocked and form great friendships without racial tension.

In the final segment of this fast-paced film, after returning to the harsh everyday realities of Brooklyn (where within five days of his return, one teen is assaulted in the street) the African American teens wish to return to the kibbutz — the place where they feel

safe and are appreciated for their indomitable spirit and contributions to the community.

"Black to the Promised Land" also has a great jazz score by Branford Marsalis and features hip-hop tunes that capture the energy of everyone involved in this exceptionally entertaining and lively documentary.



Vietnamese-American filmmaker Tiana Thi Thanah Nga (in white) and friends cross the DMZ Bridge on their way to Hanoi in "From Hollywood to Hanoi." The film chronicles Nga's return to Vietnam to discover her roots and identity.

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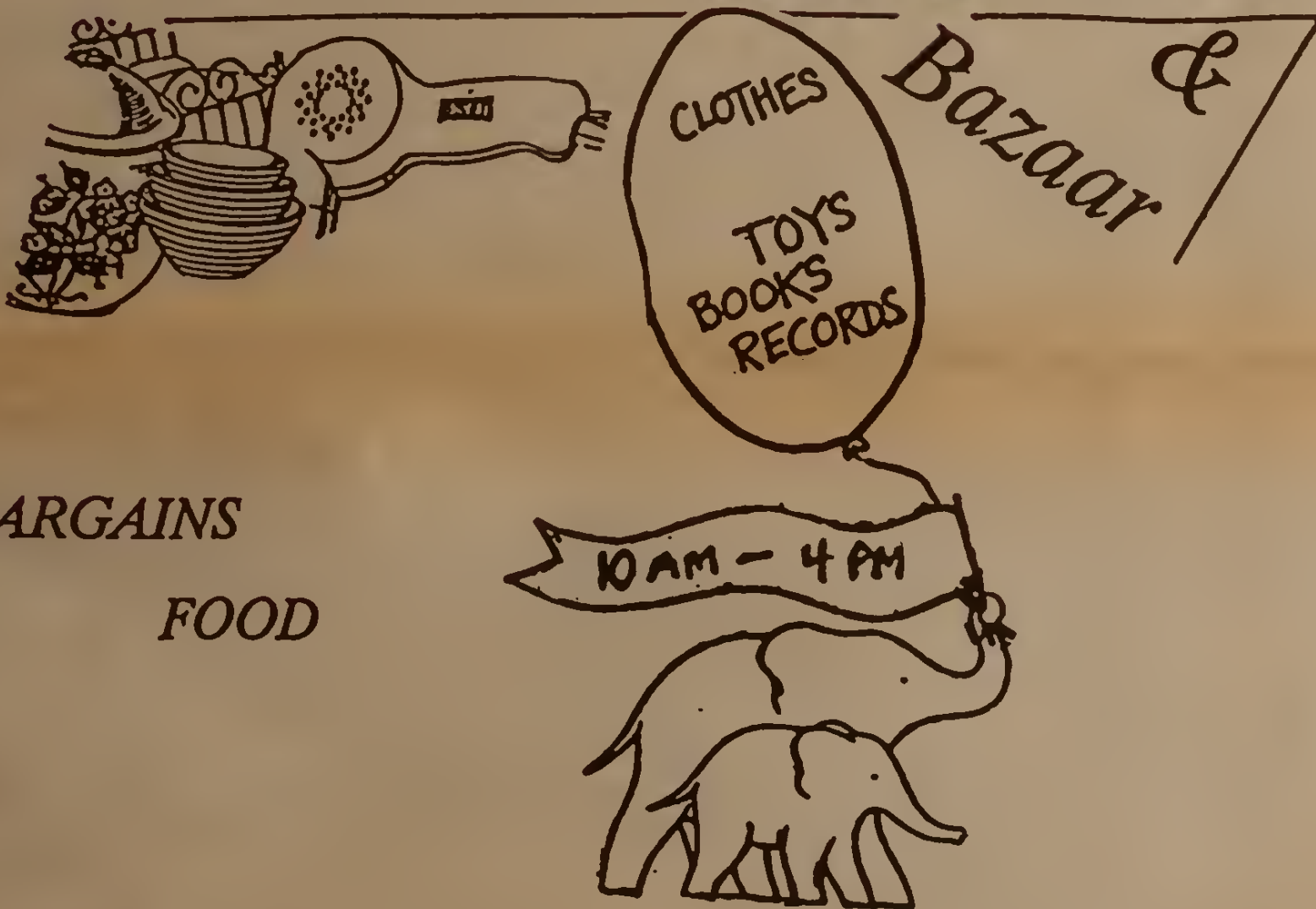
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Goodwill Sales Income Funds Job Training Programs

By Ruth Passen

Most bargain hunters take for granted what they see in a thrift shop: cast-offs given to a charitable organization to sell to the general public. Period. But there is much more to one of those thrift stores.

"Many people think of Goodwill as a second-hand store," says Admissions Coordinator Harold Walker. "But what they don't know is that the money generated from the sale of the items in the stores provides the means for Goodwill to offer job training programs." And that is what the Goodwill Industries has been doing for more than 75 years -- helping people with disabilities and disadvantaging conditions to obtain job training.

A training program in a variety of jobs is offered to any qualified student willing to learn. Classes are offered in keyboard

and computer skills, receptionist as well as retail work. And to sweeten the learning process, job seeking skills are also provided. Assistance is given to the student seeking a job, but the student is responsible for finding his/her own job. Recent graduates of the program have landed jobs with diverse Bay Area Companies as Republic Indemnity, North California Auto Assn., First Image, Union Bank, Reneson Hotel Group, and the law firm of Brobeck, Phleger and Harrison.

At a February Open House and reception honoring graduates and their employers, several students talked about the job difficulties they had encountered before getting any training for employment. One deaf student, using sign language and with an interpreter beside her brought tears to many in the audience when she described that she had felt "like a tortoise in a shell" because she couldn't communicate, and had wondered how she would make a

life under the circumstances.

Now, with retail skills training, she is employed at one of the Goodwill stores and has built faith and confidence in herself. With a sparkling personality and winning smile it wasn't difficult to imagine her putting customers at ease and explaining that though she can't hear she can communicate with them through note writing if necessary.

Response to a growing number of hearing impaired and deaf students has led Good Will to hire a hard of hearing Vocational Counselor who is a Native American and a graduate of Gallaudet University.

Another student, a 45 year old homeless man with a past that included drugs and jail, as well as an inability to read, has successfully graduated from this program and found employment. And for the first

time in his life he learned to read and write, and "now I can write to my mother," he said.

Founded in 1916, and in their original headquarters at 980 Howard St. until the Loma Prieta earthquake in 1989, Goodwill is temporarily housed at 2150 Army St., near Potrero Hill, while the organization waits for its new home at 1500 Mission St. (the old Coca Cola building) to be completed sometime this year.

Students for any of the Goodwill programs must be referred by a recognized community serving organization, and tuition may be paid through the State Dept. of Rehabilitation, private rehabilitation companies, Worker's Compensation Insurance carriers, City, County or State social service agencies, Social Security Plans for Achieving Self-support (PASS), and training scholarships.



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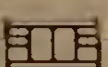
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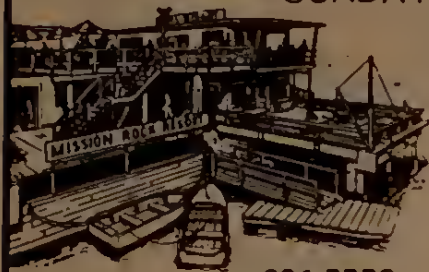
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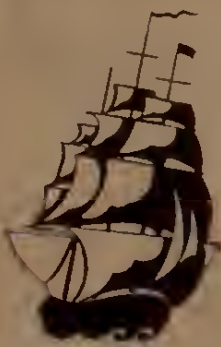
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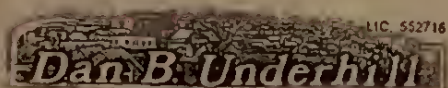
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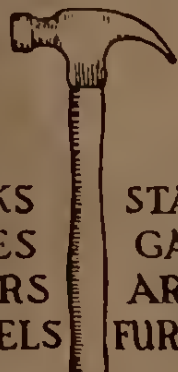
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